

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

- a.
1. **(Currently Amended)** A method of transforming ~~plants of the an~~ Allium genus plant comprising the following steps:
 - (a) delivering ~~previously manipulated~~ DNA into embryo cells, or embryo-derived culture ~~cell types~~ cells of the *Allium* genus plant via a vector or direct gene transfer to produce transformed plant material;
 - (b) selecting the transformed plant material;
 - (c) culturing and regenerating the transformed ~~plants~~ plant material;wherein the transformation is carried out without passage through a callus phase.
 2. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to claim 1 wherein the *Allium* genus plant is transformed with a strain of *Agrobacterium*.
 3. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to ~~any one of claims 1-2~~ claim 1 or 2 in which the ~~plants are onions~~ Allium genus plant is onion.
 4. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to ~~any one of claims 1-3~~ claim 1 or 2 wherein the embryos are transformed with a binary vector.
 5. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to ~~any one of claims 1-4~~ claim 1 in which the embryos of ~~an Allium species~~ are inoculated ~~immediately following their~~ isolation with an Agrobacterium strain containing an active T-DNA immediately after isolation of the embryos.

6. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to ~~any one of claims 1-5~~ claim 1 or 2 in which immature embryos are used.

7. **(Currently Amended)** A method of transforming an Allium genus plant using immature embryos as an explant source, ~~including~~ comprising:

- (a) isolating immature embryos of the Allium genus plant to be transformed;
- (b) inoculating ~~cultures of~~ the immature embryos with an *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strain ~~containing a binary vector~~ and wounding the immature embryos in a culture medium;
- ~~(c) wounding embryos and infiltrating embryos with agrobacteria;~~
- ~~(d)~~ (c) transferring the embryos to a selective medium;
- ~~(e)~~ (d) culturing the embryos ~~pieces~~;
- ~~(f)~~ (e) selecting putative transgenic cultures; and
- ~~(g)~~ (f) regenerating plants.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to ~~any one of claims 1-7~~ claim 1 wherein the plant is transformed with an *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strain containing a vector which carries a selectable ~~gene~~ DNA of interest.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to claim 8 in which the selectable ~~gene~~ DNA of interest is a herbicide resistance gene.

10. **(Original)** A method according to claim 9 in which the herbicide resistance gene is the *bar* gene or a glyphosate resistance gene.

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11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8 in which the selectable gene DNA of interest is an antibiotic resistance gene.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11 in which the antibiotic resistance gene is the *nptII* gene.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of claims ~~1-12~~ wherein claim 1 in which the plant is transformed with a modified alliinase gene.

14. (Currently Amended) A transformed plant when produced by the method of any one of claims ~~1-13~~ claim 1.

15. (Currently Amended) A transformed plant produced by the method of any one of claims ~~1-9~~ claim 1 in which the resulting transformed plant contains a modified gene involved in sulphur pathway assimilation or breakdown ~~and as a result has altered levels of sulphur or carbohydrate compounds.~~

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